OPEN ARMS · P.O. BOX 545 · MISHAWAKA · INDIANA · 46546

MARCH 1995
APRIL

OPEN ARMS

NUMBER 4 VOL. 7

· · · · · MICHIANA'S LESBIAN NEWSLETTER · · · · ·

ANITA HILL at South Bend YWCA TRIBUTE TO WOMEN

Staff report

..Being here makes a difference in the lives of many wimin.
..We need *sheros.*
..Too many heros have been for show instead of people showing courage.
..Care and concern has been seen as weakness.
..We have real sheros among peers.
..We have come a long way toward approaching equality. Now there is movement to take away affirmative action. They say it is to go back to equality. But, equality was never back there. Now that wimin are making some headway, 40% of mid-management is female, there is a movement to change the rules, to take away affirmative action, and re-affirm male (white male) special privilege.
..Domestic violence is the # 1 cause of injury to wimin.
..There is still great discomfort in talking about domestic violence.
..Domestic violence and sexual harassment go hand-in-hand in the oppression of wimin.
..80% of females, age 11-17, report sexual harassment of some kind.
..Girls 11-12 years of age are often afflicted with low self-esteem, brought on by forms of sexual harassment and resulting in dropping out of school, literally or in spirit.
..Some girls become sexually promiscuous in the hope of promoting self-esteem, defining themselves through sexual attention.
..Teen pregnancy is the desire in some young wimin to have something to look up to them.

Young wimin need sheros.

..63% of the 11-20 yr. old males in prison are there for killing the batterers of their mothers.
..Every 4 hours, someone commits suicide and those from domestically violent homes are 6 times more likely to commit suicide.
..**Anita had her sheros.** She had wimin who taught her sewing, cooking, and gardening. From sewing she was taught to pay close attention to detail. From cooking she learned organizational skills, and from gardening she learned patience.
..She learned to make something from almost nothing. If wimin were turned loose to manage the budget deficit, they could turn the tide.
..Wimin teach community and sharing. Wimin work through problems. Wimin have great strength and power and need to use it in an ever greater capacity.
..**Don't let fear** of being called a feminist **deter you**. Being called a feminist is the least offensive name we are called.
..There is power in the written word. Use it. Write about yourself and your experience. His story has left wimin out. Tell your story, even if just shared with each other.
..Wimin are survivors. We look for ways to rise.
..Racism is a part of oppression of "others". We need to be sheros in taking an aggressive stand to fight such oppression.
..The YWCA is doing a significant part in recognizing the sheros among us.

Anita spoke to a full house of 1500. She was dignified, gracious, and powerful...a true SHERO for us all. 94 Area Wimin were given special recognition.

YWCA

COMMUNITY EVENTS

VIDEO NIGHT
Cancelled for the summer due to the softball season.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP
Every Tuesday
* MEETS AT A NEW LOCATION *
7-9 p.m.
For info, write:
LSG
P.O. Box 1612
Mishawaka, IN 46544

3RD FRIDAY OUT

Riviera Restaurant
139 W. Mckinley Ave.
Mishawaka
Friday, April 21st,
7:00 p.m.
For reservations, call Jackie by Wednesday, Apr. 19th, at (219)-291-5837

ATTENTION SOFTBALL PLAYERS!
If you would like to play slo-pitch softball for *Whistle Stop Cafe* this summer, call Julie at 616-695-7311 now. Practice will start the first week in April and the first game is the last Friday in April.

EVENTS COORDINATORS
Third Friday Out: Jackie (219)-291-5837
Video Night: Gloria & Julie (616)-695-7311
Game Night:
Sunday Brunch: Kaye & Marcia (219)-271-0338

OPEN ARMS STAFF

Sheree	(616)-684-6365
Kaye & Marcia	(219)-271-0338
Advertising:	Kaye & Marcia
Subscriptions:	Kaye & Marcia

EDITORIAL POLICY
We may edit any article submitted for length or content. We ask that all articles submitted be signed and typed, but will respect the wishes of the author by not printing her name if so requested.

PLEASE TYPE SUBMISSIONS IF POSSIBLE
If it is possible for you to type your submissions on a letter quality typewriter or printer, please do so using a 55 space line. This will make layout much easier. Thanks.

WRITERS TAKE NOTE...
We are gladly accepting articles, reviews and features that honestly capture our true lives. These can be mailed to Open Arms, P.O. Box 845, Mishawaka, IN 46546. Submissions received after the 10th of the month may not be published until the next month.

GULF COAST WOMYN'S FESTIVAL
April 13-16, 1995
Camp Sister Spirit... Ovett, Mississippi
Workshops, Crafts Womyn, Feminist Womyn's Spirituality, Southern Womyn' Network, GCWF Choir-Sue Fink, Dir.Campfires. for info write:
Camp Sister Spirit
P.O.Box 12
Ovett, MS 39464
or call (601) 344-1411 voice.

This is Suzanne!

An Evening With Suzanne Westenhoefer

This nationally acclaimed comedian returns to West Michigan by popular demand!

Comedy at its best

Friday, April 28, 1995

8:00pm (doors open at 7:15)

Kalamazoo Valley Community College
6767 West "O" Avenue,
Kalamazoo, MI

Reserved Seats $17.00 & $15.00

Call 616 649-2789

Or send check or money order to:
Changing Times Productions,
PO Box 3595, Kalamazoo, MI 49003-3595
Also available at Pandora's Books for Open Minds
226 W. Lovell, Kalamazoo 616 388-5656

THE COURT OF FRIENDS

(A singles service)

O.K. all you singles! Here's your opportunity to reach out to other singles. Write out what you want other singles to know about you, what you are looking for in another (be brief), and send to:

The Court of Friends
P.O.Box 1281
Niles, MI 49120

(Be sure to include your address.)

Your identity will be assigned an ID number. Your info and ID number will be published in OPEN ARMS. (It would be helpful if you would send your info early in the month so that it can be published in the next month's issue.) Also, O.A. reserves the right to edit, if necessary, for publication.

Those wishing to respond to an ID Single may do so by writing whatever you wish, putting it in a stamped, sealed envelope with the intended ID number on the front (in pencil). Place your message in another stamped envelope and mail to the above P.O.Box.

Upon receiving your message, the ID number will be replaced with the corresponding name and address and mailed. Then you're on your own. *COME ON SINGLES! Someone special wants to know you're out there!*

30 Attractive, somewhat feminine, 37, 5'4", 155lbs., social drinker, non-smoker with two small children, looking for significant other to share life with. I like camping, biking, cross country skiing, walking along the beach, picnics, nature and romance. Any age, race, height, or weight may respond.

31 Hello out there...I am a sandy-blond, hazel eyed, 40 yr old, 5'5" and 140 lbs. I enjoy sports, long walks, long talks, movies, life. I do smoke, but don't drink or do drugs. Seeking honest, sincere female, 35-45 with similar likes. No Bi's please.

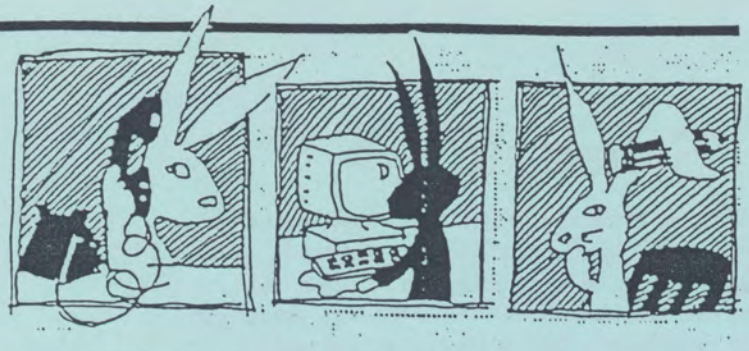
32 Forty something, 5'3", 115 lbs., white womyn, very stable with a solid value system and good sense of humor. I enjoy camping, canoeing, darts, movies, quiet evenings and womyn's events. Seeking a womyn over 40 w/similar interests to share the good times. Please...no Bi's or smokers, social drinker O.K.

33 Feminine, W F, 24, N/S, Rare-drinker, college-educated professional, Goshen Area, loves kids and animals, many interests. Seeks feminine female for friendship or possibly more.

Dear Court of Friends,

We have been running your ads for a few months now and have noticed that there have been a good many responses. We, the ***Open Arms*** *Staff, and readers of* ***Open Arms****, are wondering if anything note-worthy has come of this mode of correspondence. Do you have any tid-bits to share with us? Please let us know if you have anything juicy to share. It wouldn't even have to be juicy. We're dying to hear what's happening.*
(Write to ***The Court of Friends****, P.O.Box 1281, Niles, MI 49120)*

---It's reported that Marcia Brady, the eldest daughter on *The Brady Bunch,* will become a lesbian in the Hollywood movie based on the '70s TV series. The writers have suggested that in the film Marcia will become involved with her best friend, an out lesbian. In other movie news, actress Emma Thompson is set to star in a $35 million film version of Radclyffe Hall's classic lesbian novel, THE WELL OF LONELINESS. When this book first came out in 1928, it was banned for being obscene after a lengthy court case. Thompson, who won an Oscar for her role in "Howard's End," said she was delighted at the prospect of playing a lesbian character. -- info from *Lesbians On The Loose*



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ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertising in Open Arms runs on a calendar year basis and our advertisers will be receiving renewal notices soon. Since our rates are so low ($10 per year, or more if you can afford it, for a business-card size ad) we don't pro-rate the fee on a less than 6 month basis. If you submit your ad between January and June, the full year rate will apply; between July and December the rate will be half the yearly rate.

Michigan State Family Study

Michigan State University's Lesbian/Gay/ Bisexual development Family Study is look for young lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals, ages 14-26, to be interviewed for a study of identity development and family relationships. Respondent will receive $15.00 for participation. Participation is completely confidential. Call 517-355-9324 for more information.

1995 Festival Schedule

Here, in chronological order, are the dates and addresses for many of the major festivals to be held in 1995. Other publications are welcome to reprint this list; all we ask is that you credit us by saying: "This list first appeared in *Lesbian Connection*, the free nationwide forum of news and ideas for lesbians. For more info or to get on LC's mailing list, lesbians should write LC, c/o Ambitious Amazons, PO Box 811, East Lansing, MI 48826." In next issue's Bits & Pieces section we'll include info on a number of the smaller festivals.

WOMEN'S INT'L SQUARE DANCE EVENT
March 2-5 in Denver, CO
Sugar & Spice Sister Squares, PO Box 480122, Denver, CO 80248
phone (303)433-4948,
hotel (800)800-8000

GULF COAST WOMYN'S FESTIVAL
April 13-16 at Camp Sister Spirit
GCWF, PO Box 12, Ovett, MS 39464 phone (601)344-2005

VIRGINIA WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL May 12-14
INTOUCH, Rt 2 Box 1096, Kent's Store, VA 23084 ph (804)589-6542

IN GAIA'S LAP, The Maryland Womyn's Gathering, May 19-21
21300 Heathcote Rd, Freeland, MD 21053 phone (410)329-6708

CAMPFEST
May 24-29 (Memorial Weekend)
Campfest, RR 5 Box 185, Franklinville, NJ 08322 phone (609)694-2037, TTY (301)598-9035 (eves)

WIMINFEST
May 26-28 (Memorial Weekend)
WiminFest, PO Box 80204, Albuquerque, NM 87198-0204
phone (505)265-3297

NATIONAL WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL
June 1-4 in Bloomington, IN
NWMF, Dept LC, PO Box 1427, Indianapolis, IN 46206
phone (317)927-9355

WOMONGATHERING
Festival of Womyn's Spirituality
June 15-18 in the Poconos
RR 5 Box 185, Franklinville, NJ 08322 phone (609)694-2037

NORTHAMPTON LESBIAN FESTIVAL Mid July
WOW Productions, 160 Main St, Northampton, MA 01060
phone (413)586-8251

20th MICHIGAN WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL
August 8-13 near Hart, Michigan
WWTMC, Box 22, Walhalla, MI 49458 phone (616)757-4766.
Sept-May: Box 7430, Berkeley, CA 94707 phone (510)652-5441

WEST COAST WOMEN'S MUSIC & COMEDY FEST
Aug 31-Sept 4 (Labor Day Wknd)
Near Yosemite, CA. Robin Tyler Prod, 15842 Chase St, North Hills, CA 91343 phone (818)893-4075, fax (818)893-1593

RHYTHMFEST
Labor Day Weekend
RhythmFest, 957 N Highland Ave, Atlanta, GA 30306
phone (404)873-1551.

OHIO LESBIAN FESTIVAL
Sept 9 near Columbus, OH
LBA, PO Box 02086, Columbus, OH 43202 ph (614)267-DYKE (267-3953)

SISTERSPACE POCONO WEEKEND
Sept 8-10 in PA Poconos, 2½ hrs from NYC & Philly. Sisterspace of the Delaware Valley (SODV), 542A S 48th St, Philadelphia, PA 19143 ph (215) 747-7565 or 476-8856

WILD WESTERN WOMEN'S WEEKEND
September 22-24. INTOUCH, Rt 2 Box 1096, Kent's Store, VA 23084 ph (804)589-6542

HEART OF THE WEST FEST
November 2-5 in Las Vegas, NV
Plus Prod, PO Box 103, Lakeside, CA 92040 ph (800)GET-PLUS, fax (619)390-9830

For Immediate Release

Consumer Information from TLC (The Lesbian Committee of NOW)

Each month The Lesbian Committee intends to survey 8-10 similar businesses or services in your area in order to identify those businesses that are lesbian friendly. We will then make the list of businesses who responded within the deadline, and those who did not, to the local lesbian/gay newsletters. In addition, TLC will compile an annual directory of lesbian/gay-friendly businesses and distribute it to local lesbian/gay organizations.

"Hi ho, hi ho. It's out to eat we go." This month we polled some of the restaurants along the U.S. 31/33 strip, otherwise known as Dixie Way North. We chose some independents as well as franchises of local chains, but we didn't inquire of the fast food joints. We asked the usual questions and sent a SASE for easy reply.

1. Do you welcome lesbians and gays at your business?
2. Would you hire a person who was qualified for an open position if you knew they were lesbian or gay?
3. If it came to your attention that one of your employees was a lesbian or gay, would you retain them, in the same position?

Yes to all three: **Denny's Restaurant**...."Denny's loves our lesbian and gay customers. They are some of the friendliest and nicer customers"!

No Reply: Damon's: The Place for Ribs
Azar's Big Boy
Bennitt's Buffet
The Great Wall
Mary Ullery's
Shoney's Restaurant
Steak and Ale Restaurant
Bill Knapp's Restaurant
Bob Evan's Farm Restaurant

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

DRIFT-WOODS COTTAGES

Two-bedroom and one-bedroom cottages available on Lake Michigan, ten minutes south of Saugatuck, Michigan. The cottages are open year around, are fully furnished, have well-equipped kitchens, and linens and towels are provided for bedroom and bath. The living rooms have gas log fireplaces. Gas grills are provided for outdoor barbeques. The beach is accessible via stairs. Hiking trails, sand dunes, cross-country skiing, shops galleries, restaurants, antique shopping nearby.

Call Susan for weekend, mid-week, weekly visits at (616) 857-2586.

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SuzAnne Lintz
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...and Customer Service

Precedent Financial Corporation

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FAX 219-277-0541

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Mishawaka, IN 46545

New! Opening in June, a new women's guesthouse! Call about special pre-opening rates in May. Book now for Holland Michigan Tulip Festival, May 4th-14th.

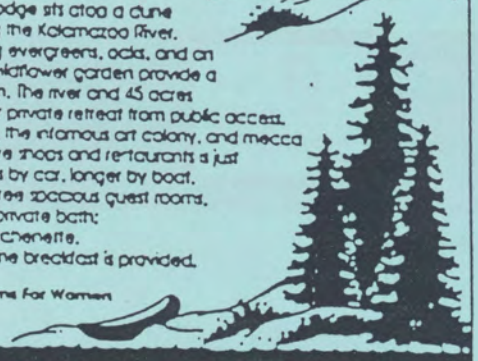
Saugatuck on the river...

DEERPATH LODGE

... an enchanting retreat

Deerpath Lodge sits atop a dune overlooking the Kalamazoo River. Surrounding evergreens, oaks, and an extensive wildflower garden provide a rustic charm. The river and 45 acres secludes our private retreat from public access. Saugatuck, the infamous art colony, and mecca of innovative shops and restaurants a just five minutes by car, longer by boat. We offer three spacious guest rooms, each with private bath; one with kitchenette. A wholesome breakfast is provided.

Guest Rooms For Women



For Reservations & Information:
P O Box 849 Saugatuck, Michigan 49453
1-616-857-DEER

HUGHES INVESTMENTS

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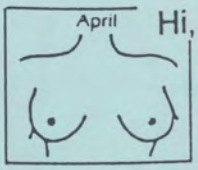
April 1995

Monthly Planner



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 APRIL DANCE! In Niles 8:00 p.m. to 1:00a.m.
2	3	4 Support Group 7:00 p.m.	5 NOW Meeting St. Joe Library 7:00 p.m.	6	7	8
9 Open Arms Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	10	11 Support Group 7:00 p.m.	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Support Group 7:00 p.m.	19 Reservations due for 3rd Friday Out	20	21 Third Friday Out 7:00 p.m.	22
23 PFLAG Meeting 2:00-4:00 p.m.	24	25 Support Group 7:00 p.m.	26	27	28	29
30						

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Printed by Calendar Creator Plus on 3/14/95

Subscription for Open Arms - $10.00/year

Name_____

Address_____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number_____

Make checks payable to Open Arms and mail it to:
Open Arms, P.O. 845, Mishawaka, IN 46546

MISSION STATEMENT

Open Arms exists to disseminate diverse information of interest to the Michiana lesbian community.

OPEN ARMS DEADLINE/MEETING

The deadline for submissions for the May *Open Arms* is April 10th. Submissions can be mailed to Open Arms, P. O. Box 845, Mishawaka, IN 46546 or given to Sheree or Kaye. Submissions received after April 10th may not be published in the May newsletter.
Newsletter meeting: Sunday, April 9th, 1995. Call 271-0338 for directions.